Andhra Pradesh Government vide their letter dated 31.10.95 requested the Cent* ral Government to provide Rs. 120 crores for completing on-going works and to take up new works during 1995-96 under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). An amount of Rs. 154.50 crores was released under EAS during 1,995-96 to the State.

(b) There is no fixed allocation under EAS for a State/district since EAS is a demand driven scheme. However, art amount of Rs. 201.10 crores was released to the DRDAs of Andhra Pradesh under EAS during 1996-97.

(c) and (d) Priority to works is to be decided by the Collector depending upon the demand for employment in a particular location of the block/district. Central Government releases funds under the scheme and it is for the Collector to decide as to how the funds are to be utilised as per EAS Guidelines.

(e) Since there is no fixed allocatiofn under EAS, question of additional amount does not arise. However, funds will be released to the districts depending upon demand for employment and proposals received from the districts with requisite documents.

बिहार में ग्रामीण सफी कार्यक्रम

3449. **श्री नागमणि**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बिहार सरकार द्वारा ग्रामीण सफाई कार्यक्रम के लिए प्रस्तुत किए गाए प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान उपरोक्त प्रस्तावों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ग) बिहार में ग्रामीण सफाई कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत क्रियान्वित किए जा रहे प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चनद्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) बिहार सरकार ने ग्रामीण स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं भेजा है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Promotion or Bamboo Cultivation on Wastelands

3450. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL .AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any programme to promote bamboo cultiva tion on wastelands;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the experience of Government in this area;

(d) the response of the people to this; and

(e) the results of some of the projects in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) to (c) There is no exclusive programme to promote bamboo cultivation on wastelands; however, under central forest sector, a scheme with 100 percent funding support for Non-timber forest produce including medicinal plants is being implemented through State Forest Departments/Forest Development Corporations in the country since 1988-89 in which bamboo plantation is a component. The data on bamboo plantation are not monitored separately. The scheme is mainly meant for forest areas. In Non-Forest wastelands, pilot studies have been initiated in 1995-96 through State Agricultural Universities of Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and also State Forest Department of Karnataka to test bamboo-based agro-forestry model. The results are expected only after 4-5 years of the commencement of the pilot studies.